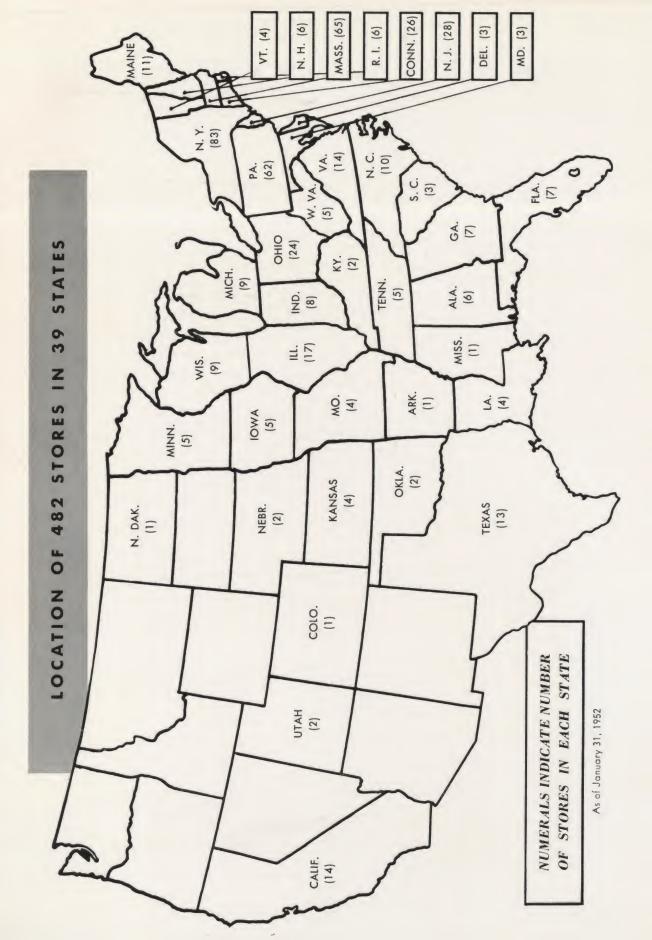
CLEVELAND PUBLIC LIBRARY BUSINESS INFORMATION BUREAU CORPORATION FILE

W. T. GRANT COMPANY



1951

BOARDS q658.87 Q7673r



W. T. GRANT COMPANY (founded in 1906 at Lynn, Mass.)

Executive and Buying Offices 1441 Broadway, New York 18, N. Y.

Board of Directors

WILLIAM T. GRANT, Chairman

John G. Byler Joseph W. Chinn Howland S. Davis Raymond H. Fogler Clayton E. Freeman Perrin C. Galpin Herbert K. Garges John M. Hancock William L. Kleitz J. Luther Knies Louis C. Lustenberger Ward Melville Edward Staley Robert R. Updegraff

Officers

Chairman of the Board President and General Manager Executive Vice President Financial Vice President and Treasurer Merchandise Vice President Vice President Vice President Vice President Comptroller Secretary Assistant Comptroller Assistant Treasurer

WILLIAM T. GRANT EDWARD STALEY LOUIS C. LUSTENBERGER JOHN G. BYLER J. LUTHER KNIES GORDON ANDERSON M. O. BOXWELL E. J. STINNEFORD M. F. KETZ CHARLES W. RIVOIRE GEORGE W. MIDDLETON WARREN G. FINNAN

BANKERS TRUST COMPANY, NEW YORK, N. Y. Registrar GUARANTY TRUST COMPANY OF NEW YORK Transfer Agent



SOUTHGATE, MILWAUKEE, WIS

. . . THE STORY IN BRIEF . .

| | FISCAL YEARS | | |
|---|---|---|--|
| | 1951 (Ended January 31, 1952) | 1950 (Ended January 31, 1951) | |
| Sales | \$268,332,908 | \$250,573,987 | |
| Earnings before taxes | \$ 19,236,547 | \$ 15,937,551 | |
| Federal income taxes | \$ 11,720,000 | \$ 7,835,000 | |
| Net earnings after taxes | \$ 7,516,547 | \$ 8,102,551 | |
| Cents per sales dollar | 2.8¢ | 3.2¢ | |
| Earnings per common share | \$2.90 | \$3.16 | |
| Dividends paid per preferred share | \$3.75 | \$3.75 | |
| Dividends paid per common share | \$1.50 | \$1.50 | |
| Federal income taxes per common share | \$4.89 | \$3.29 | |
| Total dividends paid for fiscal year | \$ 4,149,478 | \$ 4,134,660 | |
| Total wages and salaries | \$ 42,118,572 | \$ 38,370,166 | |
| Other employee benefits | \$ 2,998,788 | \$ 2,711,181 | |
| Total compensation and employee benefits | \$ 45,117,360 | \$ 41,081,347 | |
| Cents per sales dollar | 16.8¢ | 16.4¢ | |
| Total federal, state, and local taxes | \$ 16,614,556 | \$ 12,391,770 | |
| Merchandise inventories | \$ 34,807,085 | \$ 35,708,947 | |
| Working capital | \$ 41,562,418 | \$ 41,711,739 | |
| Book value common stock — per share | \$26.20 | \$24.78 | |
| Number of common stockholders | 6,123 | 5,690 | |
| Number of preferred stockholders | 809 | 782 | |
| Number of stores in operation at year-end | 482 | 477 | |

W. T. GRANT COMPANY

1441 Broadway, New York, N. Y.

Jo the Stockholders:

This is our 45th annual report to stockholders. It includes, for the fiscal year ended January 31, 1952, comparative financial statements of our Company, certified by Ernst & Ernst, independent public accountants appointed by the Board of Directors.

SALES... Sales for the year reached an all-time peak of \$268,332,908, an increase of \$17,758,921, or 7.1% over 1950.

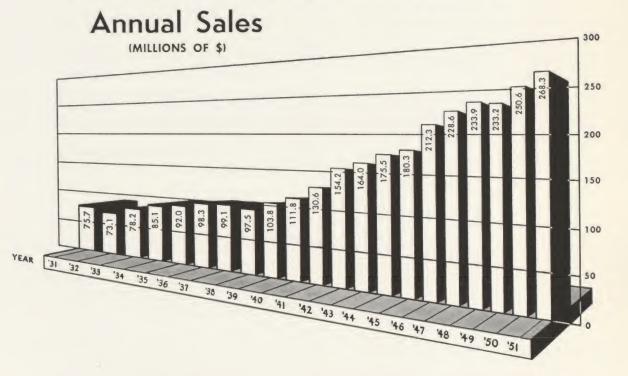
As shown in a 45 year statistical summary included in this report, annual sales have increased over the preceding years in each of the 45 years, except 1932, 1938, and 1949.

EARNINGS... The net earnings after taxes for 1951 amounted to \$7,516,547, which after dividends on the preferred stock, equalled \$2.90 per share of common stock on 2,395,963 shares outstanding at the year end.

For 1950, the net earnings were \$8,102,551 or \$3.16 per share of common stock on 2,384,498 shares outstanding at the end of 1950.

The earnings for both years were computed on the LIFO method of valuing inventories.

The 1951 earnings before federal income taxes reached a new all-time peak of \$19,236,547, which was \$3,298,996 above the \$15,937,551 of the preceding year.



TAXES... For the year, federal income and excess profits taxes, which reflect the higher corporation tax rates in effect this year, amounted to \$11,720,000 or \$3,885,000 above the \$7,835,000 for 1950. Accordingly, the increase in taxes exceeded the increase in earnings before taxes by \$586,004.

The 1951 total consolidated provision for federal taxes on income equalled 60.9% of the earnings before taxes, compared to 49.2% for 1950.

The provision for federal taxes includes \$1,400,000 for the excess profits tax, calculated on taxable earnings in excess of the Company's 1951 base of approximately \$14,700,000.

DIVIDENDS... During 1951, regular quarterly dividends totalling \$3.75 per share were paid on the preferred stock. On the common stock, dividends totalling \$1.50 were paid during the fiscal year, the same as in the preceding fiscal year. During the fiscal year 1950, four quarterly dividends of 25ϕ and an extra dividend of 50ϕ were paid. In the 1951 fiscal year, a dividend of 25ϕ was paid for the first quarter, then the quarterly dividend rate was raised to $37\frac{1}{2}\phi$ for the three remaining quarters, and an extra dividend of $12\frac{1}{2}\phi$ paid with the last quarterly dividend, making the total dividend \$1.50, as in preceding fiscal year. It is anticipated that future dividend payment months on the common stock will be April, July. October, and December, so that the four quarterly dividends of the Company's fiscal year will coincide with the calendar year.

The total amount of all dividends paid during the fiscal year 1951 was \$4,149,478 which compares with \$4,134,660 paid during the preceding fiscal year. The Company has paid dividends on its outstanding stock in every year since its founding in 1906.

FINANCIAL POSITION... As shown in the statement of financial position, that is included in this report, current assets at January 31, 1952 totalled \$57,528,882 which compares with \$58,693,161 at January 31, 1951.

Current liabilities at January 31, 1952 totalled \$15,966,464 which compares with \$16,981,422 at January 31, 1951.

Accordingly, working capital at the year end was \$41,562,418 compared with \$41,711,739 at the end of the preceding year.

Merchandise inventories on hand and in transit, valued on the LIFO method, totalled \$34,807,085 at January 31, 1952, which compares with \$35,708,947 at the end of the preceding year. The Company's merchandise position and buying continue on a conservative and normal turnover basis.

CAPITAL PROGRAM... In 1951, the Company continued its program of adding new stores, enlarging, relocating, and modernizing existing stores.

Expenditures for new construction and equipment totalled approximately \$12,137,000 for the year. Of this total, \$5,623,000 was recovered from landlords or will be repaid after completion of the buildings. Accordingly, the net capital expenditure for the year was \$6,514,000. This does not include expenditures for construction made directly by owners in preparing certain properties for our use.

During 1951, the Company continued to buy and develop properties for occupancy, and to sell them at approximately the costs to the Company, retaining occupancy under long-term leases. Under this program, 8 properties were sold and 12 properties were purchased during the year. In connection with these transactions, mortgages payable at the year end were \$808,587 lower than last year.

During the year, 8 stores were opened in new communities, and 3 small stores were permanently closed. As a result, there were 482 stores in operation at the year end compared with 477 at the end of the preceding year.

The stores opened in new communities were at Elizabeth, N. J., Levittown, N. Y., Long Beach, Calif., St. Louis Park, Minn., Southgate section of Milwaukee, Wis., Daytona Beach, Fla., Champaign, Ill., and El Monte, Calif.

In addition, new buildings were erected in fifteen communities on existing or relocated sites; seven stores were enlarged and modernized; thirty-three were equipped with modern lighting; and nineteen were air-conditioned. As a group, the stores opened during 1951 produced sales above expectations for the respective months of operation in 1951.

At the year end, work was under way in five new communities. In addition work had started in six communities where enlargements or relocations are under way. The development of additional 1952 projects will depend primarily on government restrictions on construction and the availability of materials during the year.

EMPLOYEES STOCK PURCHASE PLAN... Participation in the Employees Stock Purchase Plan has continued to increase the number of our employee stockholders. Of the 118,935 shares of unissued stock authorized for such purpose by the stockholders in 1950, 82,030 shares had been contracted for through January 31, 1952 by 564 employees. The value of the total contract prices of these shares was \$2,225,315. Through January 31, 1952, 17,255 shares had been fully paid for and issued, and there remained \$1,629,963 unpaid on contracts in force.

Offers of 5,995 shares were outstanding to 89 employees. Employees can accept the stock within a two year period. Stock is sold on a deferred payment basis at the approximate market price on the date the offer is accepted and the contract is signed.

30,910 shares now remain for future offerings. It is expected that an offering will be made in 1952 to those managers and executives newly qualified through length of service, and to previous participants, who, through promotion and performance, now qualify for additional shares.

PERSONNEL AND ORGANIZATION... For the year ended January 31, 1952, salaries and wages totalled \$42,118.572 which compares with \$38,370,166 for 1950. In addition, other employee benefits amounted to \$2,998,788 in 1951 compared to \$2,711,181 in 1950. The latter amounts include \$1,368,688 for 1951 and \$1,323,469 for 1950 Company contributions to the Employees Retirement Fund. Payments to the Fund include contributions for both current and prior service. Of the estimated cost of \$2,100,000 to cover benefits for service prior to 1942 when the plan was inaugurated, the Company has to date contributed \$1,700,000.

Early in 1952, the annual regional conventions for store managers were held, at which 1952 merchandise and operating opportunities were discussed. William T. Grant Achievement Awards were presented to store and district managers who achieved top ratings in performance and improvement contests for 1951. The conventions, in all respects, were the most successful ever held, from which plus results should accrue in 1952.

At the year end, there were approximately 20,700 employees, which compares with 20,000 last year, and includes part-time and extra employees. There were 578 employees with 20 or more years of service, including 194 with over 25 years of service. During 1951, suitably engraved gold watches were presented to 29 men and women who joined the 25 year group. There were 272 men and women serving in the armed forces at the year end on military leave of absence.

During 1951, store manager turnover was one of the lowest in our history. The capital program has offered our people bigger opportunities. Promotions, as a result, have been numerous. It is also of interest to note that at the year end, 40 of our stores were being successfully managed by women who started with the Company as store office and sales women.

A number of our managers were cited in their communities for unusual participation in community projects. All store managers are encouraged to take an active interest in their community affairs.

During the year seven managers and executives retired under the Employees Retirement Plan: S. A. Kaufman, Assistant Director of Merchandising, after 40 years of service; C. F. Hansen, Director of Research and Planning, after 28 years of service; J. B. Boyle, Vice President, after 11 years of service; T. J. Burns, Vice President, after 38 years of service; A. J. Williams, Store Manager, after 38 years of service; P. T. Gleason. Store Manager, after 36 years of service; and W. A. Fitzgibbon, Senior Buyer, after 31 years of service.

During the next three years, 11 additional managers and executives will reach normal retirement age. It is interesting to note that the average age of the top seventy administrative and field executives and senior buyers, is just under 47 years, and that their service with the Company averages 21 years.

On March 1, 1952, R. H. Fogler, President, retired after 25 years of service with the Company. His contribution to the Company's development, and especially to its personnel, is regarded by all employees and directors as outstanding. Mr. Fogler will remain a member of the Board of Directors.

At the Directors' Meeting on February 27, 1952, the Board elected Edward Staley, then Vice President and General Manager, to be the Company's new President and General Manager, effective March 1, 1952. His career with the Company started as a trainee in the Toledo, Ohio store in 1926. Since then, his progress and experience included the positions of Assistant Store Manager, Store Manager, Director of Merchandising, Director of Store Operations, and Vice President and General Manager. During the year, J. Luther Knies, Merchandise Vice President, was elected to the Board of Directors, and at the February 27, 1952 meeting of the Board, William L. Kleitz, President of Guaranty Trust Company of New York, was elected a Director of the Company.

STOCKHOLDERS... At the year end, the common stock of the Company was owned by 6,123 stockholders, and the preferred stock, by 809 stockholders.

As of October 1951, the Company prepared a survey of its stockholders for the New York Stock Exchange, which indicated that the common stock was held by owners residing in 47 states, while the preferred stock was held by owners residing in 38 states.

This survey also showed that of 6,119 common stockholders at the time, 3,743 owned blocks of less than 100 shares, and that 2,414 of the owners were women. Of 785 preferred stockholders at the time, 612 owned blocks of less than 100 shares; and 207 of the owners were women.

GENERAL COMMENT... The year 1951 saw a return to more normal buying habits on the part of customers; more competition for the customer's dollar; increased costs of doing business, principally payroll; and exceedingly high taxes. Despite these challenging factors, the performance for the year was generally good.

We also realize that our suppliers had to face the same challenging factors we did, and for their continued cooperation in supplying us with real merchandise values under such conditions, we convey to them our sincere appreciation.

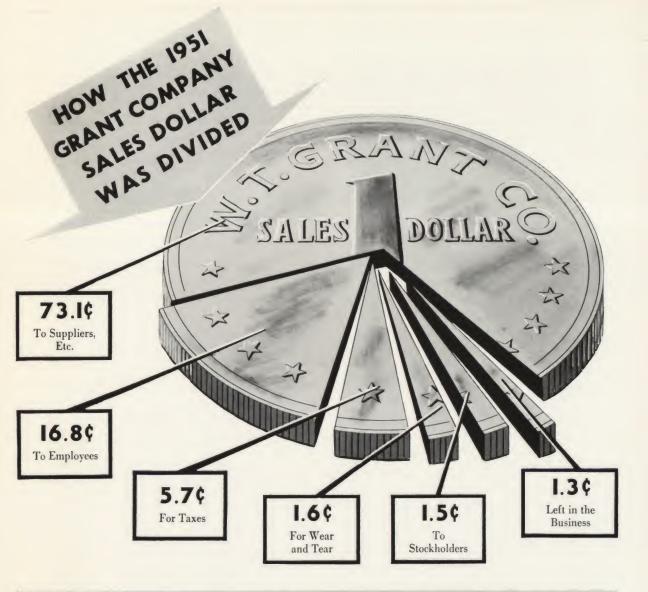
As we enter 1952, we continue to face the same problems that existed in 1951. However, we believe that, with national income continuing at current levels, the 1952 prospects for sales and earnings are favorable.

Chairman of the Board

Edward Sto

President and General Manager

April 3, 1952



COMPARATIVE TABLE ON DISTRIBUTION OF SALES DOLLAR

| | 1951 | 1950 |
|--|--------|--------|
| or each dollar of sales | cents | cents |
| Suppliers, etc.* | 73.1 | 74.4 |
| Employee compensation and other benefits | 16.8 | 16.4 |
| Depreciation, maintenance, and repairs | 1.6 | 1.5 |
| Federal, state, and local taxes. | 5.7 | 4.5 |
| Dividends to Stockholders | 1.5 | 1.6 |
| Earnings retained in the business | 1.3 | 1.6 |
| | | - |
| | \$1.00 | \$1.00 |
| *Suppliers, etc. — includes merchandise costs, supplies, rents, and outside services. | | |

W. T. GRANT COMPANY

and Subsidiary Consolidated

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

Fiscal Years Ended January 31,

| | 1952 | 1951 |
|---|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| SALES | \$268,332,908 | \$250,573,987 |
| Cost of merchandise sold and operating expenses | 245,979,059 \$ 22,353,849 | 231,689,882 \$ 18,884,105 |
| DEDUCT: | | |
| Depreciation and amortization | 2,953,494 | 2,604,973 |
| Interest paid, less interest earned of \$124,248 and \$88,110, respectively | 41,105 | 40,967 |
| Other deductions — (net) | 122,703 | 300,614 |
| Provision for federal taxes on income, including \$1,400,000 and \$445,000, respectively, for excess profits tax (Note B) | 11,720,000 \$ 14,837,302 | 7,835,000 \$ 10,781,554 |
| NET EARNINGS FOR THE YEAR | \$ 7,516,547 | \$ 8,102,551 |
| DEDUCT: | | |
| Cash dividends: | | |
| On 33/4 % Cumulative Preferred Stock: | | |
| Four quarterly dividends of 933/4¢ each per share | 562,506 | 562,506 |
| On Common Stock: | | |
| One quarterly dividend of 25¢ and three of 37½¢ each per share | 3,287,712 | |
| Four quarterly dividends of 25¢ each per share | | 2,380,812 |
| Extra dividend paid in December of $12\frac{1}{2}\phi$ and 50ϕ , respectively, per share | 299,260 | 1,191,342 |
| TOTAL DIVIDENDS | \$ 4,149,478 | \$ 4,134,660 |
| EARNINGS FOR YEAR RETAINED FOR USE IN THE BUSINESS | \$ 3,367,069 | \$ 3,967,891 |
| Add: | | |
| Earnings of prior years retained for use in the business | 46,926,715 | 42,958,824 |
| Accumulated Earnings Retained for Use in the Busi- ness at End of Year | \$ 50,293,784 | \$ 46,926,715 |

(See notes to financial statements)

W. T. GRANT COMPANY

and Subsidiary Consolidated

STATEMENT OF

ASSETS

| | Janu | ary 31, |
|---|---------------|---------------|
| | 1952 | 1951 |
| CURRENT ASSETS | | |
| Cash | \$ 14,342,503 | \$ 15,449,740 |
| United States Government securities — at redemption value | 295,393 | 925,992 |
| Accounts receivable: | | |
| Customers installment accounts, less allowance of \$639,417 and \$634,885, respectively | 5,754,753 | 5,713,963 |
| Other accounts receivable, claims, etc | 2,329,148 | 894,519 |
| | \$ 8,083,901 | \$ 6,608,482 |
| Merchandise inventories (including merchandise in transit) — at cost as determined principally by the | | |
| last-in, first-out (LIFO) method (Note A) | 34,807,085 | 35,708,947 |
| TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS | \$ 57,528,882 | \$ 58,693,161 |
| OTHER ASSETS | | |
| Building costs to be repaid by landlords | 2,728,719 | 2,427,262 |
| Cash surrender value of life insurance Recoverable taxes if retroactive LIFO is not sustained | 2,426,409 | 2,341,223 |
| (Note A) | 1,268,000 | 1,268,000 |
| Real estate mortgages receivable | 135,750 | 144,750 |
| Sundry accounts and investments | 180,691 | 158,363 |
| TOTAL OTHER ASSETS | \$ 6,739,569 | \$ 6,339,598 |
| STORE PROPERTIES, FIXTURES AND IMPROVEMENTS | | |
| Land, at cost | 6,383,943 | 6,964,777 |
| Buildings, at cost | 3,420,109 | 3,552,924 |
| Less allowance for depreciation | 936,853 | 1,139,235 |
| | \$ 2,483,256 | \$ 2,413,689 |
| Furniture and fixtures, at cost | 22,274,736 | 17,905,650 |
| Less allowance for depreciation | 7,922,661 | 6,577,525 |
| | \$ 14,352,075 | \$ 11,328,125 |
| Alterations and improvements to leased properties (re- maining cost being amortized over a period not in | 10 (00 510 | |
| excess of the terms of the leases involved) | 12,699,519 | 12,259,170 |
| TOTAL STORE PROPERTIES, FIXTURES AND IMPROVEMENTS | \$ 35,918,793 | \$ 32,965,761 |
| DEFERRED CHARGES | | |
| Prepaid taxes, rents and insurance, supplies, etc | 1,694,347 | 1,575,701 |
| | \$101,881,591 | \$ 99,574,221 |

FINANCIAL POSITION

LIABILITIES AND CAPITAL

| | January 31, | |
|---|---------------|------------------------|
| | 1952 | 1951 |
| CURRENT LIABILITIES | | |
| Accounts payable, including liability for merchandise | | |
| in transit Real estate mortgages and mortgage bonds payable | \$ 12,332,006 | \$ 13,421,653 |
| within one year | 276,866 | 514,930 |
| Accrued liabilities Federal taxes on income — estimated, less United States Savings Notes amounting to \$12,126,524 and | 2,719,641 | 3,044,839 |
| \$8,283,757, respectively (Note B) | 637,951 | _0_ |
| TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES | \$ 15,966,464 | \$ 16,981,422 |
| DEFERRED LIABILITIES Real estate mortgages and mortgage bonds payable | | |
| after one year | 2,758,865 | 3,329,388 |
| RESERVES | | |
| For reduction in inventory valuation, less tax refunds, | 2 21 4 110 | 2 214 110 |
| if retroactive LIFO is sustained (Note A) | 3,214,118 | 3,214,118 1,215,909 |
| For uninsured risks | 1,366,616 | 755,683 |
| For repainting stores | 806,183 | |
| TOTAL RESERVES | \$ 5,386,917 | \$ 5,185,710 |
| CAPITAL | | |
| Capital Stock: | | |
| Cumulative Preferred — \$100 par value (Note C) : Authorized 250,000 shares | | 15 000 000 |
| Issued 150,000 shares of $33/4$ % series | 15,000,000 | 15,000,000 |
| Common — \$5 par value (Note D): | | |
| Authorized 3,000,000 shares | | |
| Issued 2,398,363 and 2,386,898 shares, respec- tively, (both including 2,400 shares in treasury) | 11,979,815 | 11,922,490 |
| Capital paid in excess of par value of shares issued | 365,664 | 113,824 |
| Amounts paid by officers and employees under contracts for 64,775 and 62,890 shares, respec- | 303,004 | |
| tively, of unissued Common Stock | 130,082 | 114,672 |
| tively, or aneoded common stockrittert | \$ 12,475,561 | \$ 12,150,986 |
| Earnings retained for use in the business - \$15,295,784 | ψ 12,475,501 | \$ 12,100,700 |
| earned prior to formation of the parent company on | | |
| November 27, 1937, and the remainder, \$34,998,000 | | |
| and \$31,630,931, respectively, earned subsequently | | |
| (Note C) | 50,293,784 | 46,926,715 |
| TOTAL CAPITAL | \$ 77,769,345 | \$ 74,077,701 |
| CONTINGENT LIABILITIES | + | |
| The subsidiary, W. T. Grant Realty Corporation, is con- | | |
| tingently liable on mortgages, aggregating \$130,437 | | |
| at January 31, 1952 created by it covering two store | | |
| properties subsequently sold subject thereto and now | | |
| under lease to W. T. Grant Company. There are no | | |
| other contingent liabilities except those incident to the | | |
| normal course of the companies' business. | | |
| | \$101,881,591 | \$ 99,574,221 |
| | | - |

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

January 31, 1952

NOTE A — The accompanying financial statements reflect adoption as of January 31, 1950 of the last-in, first-out (LIFO) method of determining cost of inventories. However, the Company's claim to the right to use LIFO retroactively to 1941 is still pending and the accompanying statement of financial position includes the amount of \$1,268,000 for taxes recoverable if retroactive LIFO is not sustained and the reserve of \$3,214,118 for reduction in inventory valuation, less tax refunds, if retroactive LIFO is sustained. The balances in both of these accounts resulted from the accounting adjustments which reflected the adoption of LIFO as of January 31, 1950. These balances have remained unchanged as adjustments for 1950 and 1951, which would be applicable only in the event that retroactive LIFO is sustained, have been relatively immaterial. A more detailed explanation appeared in the notes to financial statements in the report for the fiscal year ended January 31, 1951.

NOTE B — The Company's federal income and excess profits tax returns have been examined by the Treasury Department for fiscal years through January 31, 1948 except with respect to the retroactive application of inventory pricing as explained in Note A. The aggregate provision for taxes included under current liabilities is believed adequate for remaining open years.

In accordance with the practice followed since inauguration in 1946, gross profits on sales on the installment basis are reflected in the financial statements of the Company when the sales are made, whereas for federal income tax purposes, such gross profits are taken into account as collections are received. At January 31, 1952, the amount of approximately \$1,150,000 for deferred federal taxes on installment sales is included in current liabilities.

NOTE C — The $3\frac{3}{4}$ % Cumulative Preferred Stock is redeemable at the Company's option in whole or in part at any time at \$102 per share to August 1, 1953, \$101 per share to August 1, 1955, and \$100 (par value) per share thereafter, plus, in each case, accrued dividends to date of redemption.

So long as any of the Cumulative Preferred Stock shall remain outstanding, the sum of dividends (other than stock dividends) paid on, and amounts expended for acquisition of, Common Stock from January 31, 1945, are not to exceed the aggregate of (1) consolidated net earnings since January 31, 1945, (2) \$5,000.000, and (3) net proceeds from sale after January 31, 1945 of any shares of stock ranking junior to the Cumulative Preferred Stock. At January 31, 1952 the portion of earnings retained for use in the business not subject to this restriction amounted to approximately \$36,000,000.

NOTE D—Under the Employees Stock Purchase Plan, approved by the Company's stockholders on April 18, 1950, there was authorized the issuance of not more than 118,935 shares of unissued Common Stock to be offered to employees under the Plan.

The total offerings made to January 31, 1952 covered 88,025 shares (net after cancellations of 4,440 shares due to terminations of employment), leaving 30,910 shares available for future offerings.

At January 31, 1952, of the 88,025 shares offered, the Company had entered into contracts for the sale, on a deferred payment basis, of 82,030 shares at approximate market prices at dates of contracts, aggregating \$2,225,315, and the remaining 5,995 shares were subject to acceptance within two years after the offerings.

At January 31, 1952, 17,255 shares had been fully paid for and issued and the unpaid balance for the remaining 64,775 shares amounted to \$1,629,963.

NOTE E — The total remaining unpaid balance of Company contributions on account of past service benefits under the Employees Retirement Plan, which was established in 1942, has been reduced to approximately \$400,000.

NOTE F — At January 31, 1952, the Company was lessee of real property owned by persons other than its subsidiary, under 496 leases expiring subsequently to January 31, 1955, at aggregate annual minimum rentals of approximately \$8,330,000 (exclusive of taxes and other expenses payable under terms of certain of the leases). This amount includes approximately \$2,339,000 minimum annual rentals under 116 leases which were on a percentage of sales basis with specified minimum annual rentals, but does not include any amount for five leases which were on a percentage of sales basis without any specified minimum annual rentals.

AUDITORS' REPORT -

TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS, W. T. GRANT COMPANY, NEW YORK, N. Y.

We have examined the statement of financial position of W. T. Grant Company and subsidiary consolidated as of January 31, 1952, and the statement of operations of the Company and subsidiary consolidated for the year then ended. Our examination was made in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, and accordingly included such tests of the accounting records and such other auditing procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly the position of W. T. Grant Company and subsidiary consolidated at January 31, 1952, and the results of their operations for the year, in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles applied on a basis consistent with that of the preceding year.

ERNST & ERNST

New York, N. Y., April 1, 1952

| | YEAR | NO. OF STORES | TOTAL SALES | SALES PER STORE | TOTAL ASSETS |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|---|---|---|
| IIGHLIGHTS | 1907 1908 1909 1910 1911 | 1 2 4 6 9 | \$ 99,478 169,154 398,778 752,781 1,043,503 | \$99,478 84,577 99,694 125,463 115,944 | \$ 30,000 80,000 125,000 187,132 243,988 |
| OF | 1912 1913 1914 1915 1916 | 12 16 20 23 25 | 1,361,539 2,000,908 2,565,296 3,061,690 3,659,779 | 113,462 125,057 128,265 133,117 146,391 | 410,972 508,819 638,788 772,367 1,015,660 |
| 43 VEADS | 1917 1918 1919 1920 1921 | 30 32 33 38 45 | 4,510,776 6,029,083 7,941,688 10,192,535 12,728,412 | 150,359 188,409 240,657 268,225 282,854 | 1,485,456 1,402,232 2,147,506 2,480,409 2,985,950 |
| YEARS OF GROWTH | 1922 1923 1924 1925 1926 | 50 60 70 77 109 | 15,382,631 20,625,389 25,316,334 30,411,399 36,074,504 | 307,653 343,756 361,662 394,953 330,959 | 3,912,719 5,859,597 8,098,738 9,633,835 11,078,491 |
| • | 1927 1928 1929 1930 1931 | 157 221 279 350 404 | 43,743,929 55,690,784 65,902,419 71,376,487 75,679,203 | 278,624 251,994 236,209 203,933 187,325 | 13,221,085 18,461,730 24,833,276 27,628,271 29,926,357 |
| • | 1932 1933 1934 1935 1936 | 446 457 465 471 477 | 73,086,856 78,206,119 85,069,612 91,981,814 98,346,043 | 163,872 171,129 182,945 195,290 206,176 | 30,320,334 33,118,111 34,574,973 35,698,996 38,617,805 |
| Since the first Grant Store | 1937 1938 1939 1940 1941* | 480 489 492 492 495 | 99,059,920 97,516,419 103,761,685 111,774,965 130,555,907 | 206,375 199,420 210,898 227,185 263,749 | 39,699,656 41,181,727 42,260,296 47,103,823 57,086,929 |
| Opened at | | | | | |
| Lynn, Mass. December, 1906 | 1942 1943 1944 1945 1946 | 493 493 490 488 484 | 154,204,453 163,983,317 175,460,824 180,306,612 212,324,212 | 312,788 332,623 358,083 369,481 438,686 | 56,368,072 59,212,224 63,511,727 72,201,533 75,414,193 |
| | 1947 1948 1949 1950 1951 | 483 482 480 477 482 | 228,636,024 233,904,425 233,167,686 250,573,987 268,332,908 | 473,367 485,279 485,766 525,312 556,707 | 81,128,896 84,059,288 91,187,694 99,574,221 101,881,591 |

* From 1941 on, respective data is on LIFO Basis.

| NET WORTH PRE-TAX EARNINGS | PRE-TAX EARNINGS FEDERAL TAXES NET EARN | | NINGS | | | |
|----------------------------|---|------------|--------------|-----------|-----------|------|
| | | TOTAL | PER SALES \$ | DIVIDENDS | YEAR | |
| \$ 19,461 | \$ 9,789 | s — | \$ 9,789 | 9.8¢ | \$ 8,000 | 1907 |
| 59,738 | 16,277 | _ | 16,277 | 9.6 | 10,000 | 1908 |
| 96,563 | 29,070 | 245 | 28,825 | 7.2 | 22,000 | 1909 |
| 155,012 | 16,523 | 119 | 16,404 | 2.1 | 27,955 | 1910 |
| 170,732 | 27,384 | 161 | 27,223 | 2.6 | 11,503 | 1911 |
| | | | | | | |
| 314,957 | 26,599 | 214 | 26,385 | 1.9 | 32,159 | 1912 |
| 364,546 | 81,422 | 847 | 80,575 | 4.0 | 29,486 | 1913 |
| 429,429 | 97,882 | 938 | 96,944 | 3.8 | 27,973 | 1914 |
| 515,023 | 191,014 | 1,800 | 189,214 | 6.2 | 103,500 | 1915 |
| 671,564 | 185,909 | 3,600 | 182,309 | 5.0 | 40,500 | 1916 |
| 758,641 | 154,179 | 44,000 | 110,179 | 2.4 | 43,500 | 1917 |
| 819,696 | 205,345 | 96,500 | 108,845 | 1.8 | 46,500 | 1918 |
| 1,506,697 | 483,484 | 154,000 | 289,484 | 3.7 | 105,939 | 1919 |
| 1,668,908 | 365,828 | 91,000 | 274,828 | 2.7 | 123,750 | 1920 |
| 2,125,671 | 406,270 | 110,000 | 296,270 | 2.3 | 132,475 | 1921 |
| 3,261,445 | 707,654 | 96,500 | 611,154 | 4.0 | 172,611 | 1922 |
| 5,066,127 | 1,565,837 | 205,000 | 1,360,837 | 6.6 | 405,526 | 1923 |
| 6,832,195 | 1,623,504 | 206,000 | 1,417,504 | 5.6 | 590,293 | 1924 |
| 8,142,294 | 2,218,049 | 305,000 | 1,913,049 | 6.3 | 562,837 | 1925 |
| 9,645,860 | 2,537,472 | 345,000 | 2,192,472 | 5.9 | 557,561 | 1926 |
| 1,416,402 | 2,754,239 | 367,900 | 2,386,339 | 5.5 | 568,895 | 1927 |
| 4,926,094 | 3,216,708 | 389,000 | 2,827,708 | 5.1 | 565,818 | 1928 |
| 20,501,677 | 3,420,478 | 380,000 | 3,040,478 | 4.6 | 700,519 | 1929 |
| 22,970,931 | 3,836,874 | 463,245 | 3,373,629 | 4.7 | 1,187,830 | 1930 |
| 24,799,289 | 3,542,148 | 434,500 | 3,107,648 | 4.1 | 1,195,355 | 1931 |
| 25,154,947 | 1,849,230 | 237,154 | 1,612,076 | 2.2 | 1,195,355 | 1932 |
| 27,235,538 | 3,860,490 | 513,315 | 3,347,175 | 4.3 | 1,195,355 | 1933 |
| 28,595,192 | 3,013,082 | 396,880 | 2,616,202 | 3.1 | 1,195,355 | 1934 |
| 30,435,244 | 3,869,866 | 535,620 | 3,334,246 | 3.6 | 1,494,194 | 1935 |
| 32,160,771 | 5,790,783 | 1,196,405 | 4,594,379 | 4.7 | 2,868,852 | 1936 |
| 4,359,325 | 4,252,725 | 851,000 | 3,401,725 | 3.4 | 2,353,772 | 1937 |
| 34,800,293 | 3,474,424 | 708,000 | 2,766,424 | 2.8 | 2,311,064 | 1938 |
| 36,016,683 | 4,784,996 | 960,000 | 3,824,996 | 3.7 | 2,608,456 | 1939 |
| 37,579,076 | 5,068,211 | 1,526,000 | 3,542,211 | 3.2 | 2,013,925 | 1940 |
| 8,957,261 | 7,646,372 | 3,633,000 | 4,013,372 | 3.1 | 2,727,538 | 1941 |
| 10,055,540 | 6,263,775 | 3,151,500 | 3,112,275 | 2.0 | 2,013,926 | 1942 |
| 41,616,879 | 9,146,275 | 5,571,000 | 3,575,275 | 2.2 | 2,013,926 | 1943 |
| 43,385,368 | 12,675,425 | 8,893,000 | 3,782,425 | 2.2 | 2,013,926 | 1944 |
| 52,099,553 | 11,503,905 | 7,491,000 | 4,012,905 | 2.2 | 2,172,512 | 1945 |
| 55,507,951 | 14,859,061 | 5,655,000 | 9,204,061 | 4.3 | 5,795,663 | 1946 |
| 58 189 504 | 10,851,122 | 4,039,000 | 6,812,122 | 3.0 | 4,130,569 | 1947 |
| 58,189,504 64,547,456 | 15,246,167 | 5,947,000 | 9,299,167 | 4.0 | 2,941,215 | 1948 |
| 69,852,364 | 15,545,477 | 6,110,000 | 9,435,477 | 4:0 | 4,130,569 | 1940 |
| 74,077,701 | 15,937,551 | 7,835,000 | 8,102,551 | 3.2 | 4,134,660 | 1950 |
| 77,769,345 | 19,236,547 | 11,720,000 | 7,516,547 | 2.8 | 4,149,478 | 1951 |

NEW STORES IN NEW COMMUNITIES.



WATERBURY, CONN.



HEMPSTEAD, N. Y

Grants capital and improvement program reached a post-war peak in 1951. With a large number of projects initiated before government restrictions, it was possible to complete 26 major construction jobs in this year. Eight modern Grant stores were opened in new communities. Those at Levittown, N. Y., Long Beach, Calif., El Monte, Calif., St. Louis Park, Minn., and the Southgate section of Milwaukee, Wis., are prominent units in new park-and-shop developments. Stores in Elizabeth, N. J., Champaign, Ill., and Daytona Beach, Fla., are in impressive downtown locations.

Numerous Grant stores were improved in 1951. Thirty-three were given new lighting. Air-conditioning was installed in 19 additional stores. In the following cities, Grant stores were enlarged and extensively remodeled: Camden, N. J., Orlando, Fla., Manchester, Conn. Perhaps in no other single year has the company been able to accomplish so much in improving its stores. It is expected that the 1951 program will contribute considerably to Grants sales and competitive position.

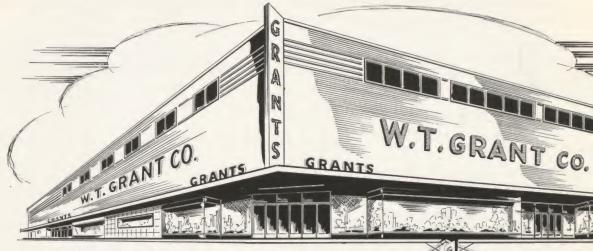


LEVITTOWN, N. Y



KANSAS CITY, MO.

. NEW BUILDINGS IN ESTABLISHED TOWNS



JACKSONVILLE, FLA.

In fifteen communities Grants erected new buildings on existing sites or at new locations. Those in Kansas City, Mo., Waterbury, Conn., Worcester, Mass., Norfolk, Va., Hempstead, L. I., and Jacksonville, Fla., rank among the company's "top fifty" stores for size and volume. Hempstead is believed to be the largest single-floor variety store in the world. New buildings were also occupied in: West Warwick, R. I., Mt. Holly, N. J., Johnstown, Pa., Lincoln, Nebr., Milford, Conn., Glens Falls, N. Y., Honesdale, Pa., Palmerton, Pa., Canton, Ohio. In Canton and Johnstown, only portions of the proposed expanded stores were opened in 1951. The balance of added space is scheduled for opening in 1952.



T. GRANT CO.

R

Pa, Lincoln, Nebr., Milford, Conn, Falls, N. Y., Honesdale, Pa., Palmera, Canton, Ohio. In Canton and Johnsonly portions of the proposed expanded were opened in 1951. The balance of space is scheduled for opening in 1952.

WORCESTER, MASS.



W. T. GRANT CO.

1441 BROADWAY

NEW SFORK, N. Y.